

Everyday Settings & Family Activities

Black Girls Do STEM

My purpose of creating <u>Black Girls Do STEM</u> is to change the face of the STEM industry. As both black and a woman I have felt culturally isolated in STEM workplaces. I can say I often walk into spaces as either the only black woman or only a minority. I see very few people who look like me leading within the STEM industry. I am left to ask myself why? Then as I reflect on my college years and upbringing, I am faced with the harsh reality that lack of exposure and encouragement may be the reasoning for my oftensolo appearance in the STEM industry.

By launching Black Girls Do STEM, I strive to provide middle school-aged black girls the opportunity to learn, create, and build confidence in their abilities to become STEM professionals. In doing this we will be closing the gap between black woman scientists and engineers and the rest of the STEM world. Opening black girls' eyes to the possibilities in STEM while they are still curious and excited to learn new things, allowing black girls to be at the forefront of the next scientific discovery. I believe black girls can, black girls will; do STEM!"

-Cynthia Chapple

